Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /078 W

-----023382 071056Z /17

R 062140Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6944

INFO AMCONSUL TORONTO

AMCONSUL CALGARY

AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

AMCONSUL HALIFAX

UNCLAS OTTAWA 01742

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PINT. CA

SUBJECT: SIGNIFICANT DATES IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN

- 1. IN VIEW OF LIKELIHOOD OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS THIS SPRING, FOLLOWING TIMETABLE MAY BE USEFUL TO DEPARTMENT. IT INDICATES MAJOR EVENTS FROM ISSUANCE OF WRIT (CALLING OF ELECTION) TO ELECTION DAY.
- 2. ISSUANCE OF WRIT NEED NOT BE ON DAY 60 AS IT IS ON TABLE BELOW. IT COULD BE 1 OR 2 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER DAY 60. BY TRADITION, HOWEVER, ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS ROUGHLY 60 DAYS AND WRIT ISSUANCE SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY BEFORE START OF ENUMERATION (LEGALLY REQUIRED FOR MONDAY/DAY 49) TO ALLOW CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER TO GET ORGANIZED.
- TIMETABLE FOR A GENERAL ELECTION

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DAY 60 THURSDAY PROBABLE WRIT ISSUANCE

DAY 49 MONDAY ENUMERATION (VOTER REGISTRATION)

- BEGINS

DAY 44 SATURDAY ENUMERATION ENDS

DAY 42 MONDAY PRELIMINARY VOTER LISTS FILED
DAY 29 SUNDAY POLITICAL BROADCASTING CAN BEGIN
DAY 28 MONDAY FINAL NOMINATION DAY - (ISOLATED

- RIDINGS - 10 PERCENT)

DAY 26 WEDNESDAY PRINTING OF PRELIMINARY VOTER LISTS

- COMPLETED

DAY 23 SATURDAY LISTS MADE AVAILABLE TO VOTERS
DAY 21 MONDAY FINAL NOMINATION DAY NORMAL RIDINGS

- (90 PERCENT)

DAY 18 THURSDAY CANDIDATE WITHDRAWAL

- FINALIZATION OF PRELIMINARY VOTER
- LISTS

DAY 9 SATURDAY ADVANCE POLL BEGINS (ROUGH EQUIVALENT

- TO TAKING ABSENTEE BALLOT)

DAY 7 MONDAY ADVANCE POLL DAY 6 TUESDAY ADVANCE POLL

DAY 2 SATURDAY BROADCASTING ENDS (MIDNIGHT)

 ${\tt DAY~0~MONDAY} \qquad {\tt POLLING~DAY~(IF~MONDAY~IS~A~HOLIDAY~-}$

- POLLING DAY SHALL BE TUESDAY)
- 3. LAST NOMINATION DAYS (DAY 28 AND 21) ARE LARGELY ACADEMIC SINCE NEARLY ALL MAJOR PARTY CANDIDATES FILE NOMINATIONS ASAP AFTER WRIT ISSUANCE.
- 4. ENUMERATION IS A CANADIAN ELECTORAL PROCEDURE WHICH ASSURES HIGH VOTER TURN OUT. BRIEFLY, RATHER THAN PLACE ONUS OF REGISTRATION ON VOTER AS IS CASE IN U.S., ENUMERATORS WORKING FOR THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER COMPILE VOTING LISTS VIA DOOR-TO-DOOR CANVASSING. PROCEDURE SHOULD RECORD AT LEAST 95 PERCENT OF APPROXI-UNCLASSIFIED

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MATELY 14.9 MILLION CANADIANS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE. HONEST LISTS ARE ASSURED SINCE THERE ARE TWO ENUMERATORS PER POLL, ONE REPRESENTING PARTY WHICH HOLDS RIDING AND OTHER REPRESENTING PARTY WITH SECOND HIGHEST VOTE TOTAL IN PREVIOUS ELECTION. DUEMLING

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